

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-13

NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAC-00 INRE-00 /077 W

-----086900 061916Z /64

O 061530Z JUN 78

FM AMCONSUL BELIZE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6424

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BELIZE 553

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PBOR, BH, UK, GT

SUBJECT: UDP CELEBRATES

REFS: BELIZE 546, 552

1. AT A RALLY LAST NIGHT IN FRONT OF SUPREME COURT BUILDING
UDP WAS GLOATING. IT IS EVIDENT THEY REGARD RECENT TALKS
AS THEIR VICTORY AND THEY CLAIM TO BE GOING FROM STRENGTH
TO STRENGTH.

2. IN BRIEF CONVERSATION, LINDO MADE FOLLOWING OBSERVATIONS
ON STATEMENT REPORTED IN REFTELS:

A) PLACING DISPUTE ABOVE PARTY ISSUES HAD BEEN BASIC DESIRE OF
UDP AT ALL TIMES. TOO IMPORTANT FOR PARTY POLITICS. B)
REPRESENTATION OF BOTH PARTIES. THIS IS SIGNIFICANT AND MEANS
THAT PARTIES WILL BE ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING, NOT JUST
OBSERVING. IT ALSO MEANS UDP WILL HAVE ACCESS TO ALL DOCUMENTS
AND NOTES, A POINT LINDO FELT WAS MOST IMPORTANT IN VIEW FACT
GOVERNMENT FREQUENTLY DENIED HIM ACCESS TO RECORDS AND DATA,
C) REFERENDUM. THE MOST IMPORTANT SINGLE ITEM AND ONE WHICH
TIES IN WITH BASIC UDP THEORY MOST BELIZEANS NOT ENTHUSIASTIC
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ABOUT INDEPENDENCE, D) TALKS HAVE ENDED. THIS PUTS THE END TO
ANY SPECULATION ABOUT A SECRET TREATY. THERE HAS BEEN A
GOOD BIT OF LOOSE TALK HERE ALONG LINES THAT GOVERNMENT HAS A
DRAFT TREATY SOMEWHERE WHICH DOES GIVE AWAY SOME LAND IN THE
SOUTH OR SOME PART OF NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY. E) ATTENDANCE
AT TALKS WILL NOT PREJUDICE POSITIONS OF EITHER POLITICAL
PARTY OR RESPONSIBILITIES OF HMG. AN ESCAPE CLAUSE, AS IT

WERE, TO ALLOW ALL PARTIES TO AGREEMENT TO CONTINUE ON OTHER BUSINESS. F) A SOLUTION TO DISPUTE IS "HIGHLY DESIRABLE"; A INDEPENDENCE AND SUCH A SOLUTION ARE SEPARATE ISSUES. AN INTERESTING ARTICLE AND ONE WHICH WE FELT WAS A VICTORY FOR UDP, AS WELL AS ONE WHICH GAVE HMG MORE FLEXIBILITY. LINDO PUT FORWARD IDEA THAT NOW, THE DISPUTE COULD BE SOLVED BUT THAT INDEPENDENCE NEED NOT IMMEDIATELY FOLLOW. THIS STRIKES US AS A BIT FOOLISH; WE DO NOT SEE HOW THE PROBLEM CAN BE SOLVED AND INDEPENDENCE DELAYED BY ANY MORE THAN A RELATIVELY SHORT TIME. UDP HOPES THAT WITH SOLUTION TO DISPUTE, BRITIAN WILL CONTINUE TO EXERCISE CONTROL HERE IN ORDER TO ALLOW FOR ECONOMIC AND GOVERNMENTAL GROWTH. A PIOUS THOUGHT BUT UN-LIKELY TO BE WIDELY ACCEPTED.

3. DURING SPEECH, LINDO ALSO PUT FORWARD FOLLOWING IDEAS; THE MARCH OF "GODLESS COMMUNISM" (SIC) HAS BEEN HALTED, UDP WILL ACT AS A BRAKE ON HEADSTRONG LEADERS OF PUP WHO WISH ONLY TO ADVANCE THEIR OWN CAUSE WITHOUT REGARD FOR NEEDS OF COUNTRY, AND TREATY REFERRED TO ABOVE WHICH WOULD BEEN BETRAYAL OF BELIZE HAS BEEN AVERTED.

4. IT WAS CLEAR LINDO AND UDP FEEL ANY SUCCESS WHICH MAY HAVE COME FROM CONFERENCE WAS DUE TO THEIR EFFORTS. THE OPPOSITION PARTY IS RIDING A WAVE OF SELF CONGRATULATION. ASIDE FROM SOME KIND WORDS FOR MR. STEPHENS, THERE WAS NOT ONE COMMENT ABOUT ROLE OF OWENS, GOVERNOR OR ANY OF BRITISH PARTY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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ISecure: 1
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TAGS: PINT, PBOR, PDEV, BH, UK, GT, UDP
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Type: TE
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